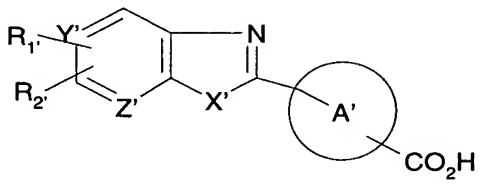
Int'l Application No.: PCT/EP00/05881
Int'l Filing Date: 23 June 2000

(a) amidation of a carboxylic acid having the formula:



wherein X′, Y′, Z′, A′, R_{1}' and R_{2}' each respectively represent X, Y, Z, A, R_1 and R_2 as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof,

with an amine having the formula:

$$HNR_{S}'R_{t}'$$

wherein R_{S}' and R_{t}' each respectively represent R_S and R_t as defined in claim 1, or a protected form thereof, and

(b) optionally preparing a salt or a solvate thereof.

A1

3. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

(i) converting the compound of formula (I) formed in step(a) or step (b) into another compound of formula (I);

(ii) removing any protecting group; and

(iii) preparing a salt or a solvate thereof.

4. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof or a solvate thereof, wherein said process comprises cleavage of a compound of formula (VIII) at the N-Resin bond

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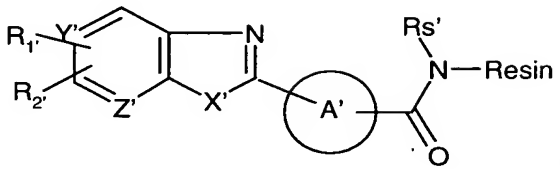

(VIII)

wherein X', Y', Z', A', $R_{1'}$ and $R_{2'}$, and $R_{S'}$ each respectively represent X, Y, Z, A, R_1, R_2 and R_S as defined in claim 1.

A1

5. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

6. (Amended) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of diseases associated with over activity of osteoclasts in mammals wherein said method comprises the administration of an effective non-toxic amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof.

A2

8. (Amended) A method for the treatment of tumours, viral conditions, ulcers, autoimmune diseases and transplantation, for the treatment or prevention of hypercholesterolemic and atherosclerotic diseases, AIDS, Alzheimer's disease, and angiogenic diseases in a human or non-human mammal, which method comprises administering an effective, non-toxic, amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, to a human or non-human mammal in need thereof.

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Please add new claims 16-19, as follows:

16. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of tumours comprises treatement of renal cancer, melanoma, colon cancer, lung cancer and leukemia.

A3

17. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of viral conditions comprises treatment of Semliki Forest virus, Vesicular Stomatitis, Newcastle Disease, Influenza A and B and HIV viruses.

18. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of ulcers comprises treatment of chronic gastritis and peptic ulcers induced by Helicobacter pylori.

19. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of angiogenic diseases comprises treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, diabetic retinopathy, psoriasis and solid tumours.

REMARKS

The above-identified application is being entered into the National Phase from PCT application no. PCT/EP00/05881.